

7080 Weybridge Road
Weybridge, VT 05753

January 27, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I understand there is a 60-day public comment period, as required by the Tunney Act, with regard to the settlement between Microsoft and the Justice Department. Please know that I am fully supportive of this court mediator-assisted compromise and am urging you to cease any further legal action against Microsoft.

Microsoft's success is extremely important to the U.S. economy, technological innovation, and millions of consumers. Microsoft's offer—access to their internal code for future design and permitted licensing of their intellectual property—should more than suffice to their competition.

Creative, forward-thinking individuals and companies should not be penalized because their competitors are not able to be as successful due to their own lack of ability. This deal offers capitulation with sensible restraint, so I urge you to finalize it and move on to more important matters. Thank you very much.

Yours truly,



Shirley Claudon